

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—December 5, 2000

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 5, 2000.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JUDY BIGGERT to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 19, 1999, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 25 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip, limited to not to exceed 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate extend beyond 9:50 a.m.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10 a.m.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 1 minute a.m.), the House stood in recess until 10 a.m.

□ 1000

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD) at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

The prophet Isaiah had a vision that helped people to see through the darkening days of winter.

"In days to come, the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest mountain and raised above the hills. All nations shall stream toward it; many people shall come and say: 'Come, let us climb the Lord's mountain, to the house of the God of

Jacob, that he may instruct us in his ways, and we may walk in his paths.'"

Give direction, Lord God, to each step we take these days. Let us not be fearful of the heights; our eyes fixed on You. Free us to be led to Your dwelling place. Then we will be light to the world and an example to other nations.

By being truly present to one another and unafraid to address every need, we will establish true dialogue and soon find ourselves in a lasting house of justice and integrity where You live now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MURTHA led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

PRIVATE CALENDAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is Private Calendar day. The Clerk will call the first individual bill on the Private Calendar.

ALEXANDRE MALOFIENKO, OLGA MATSKO, AND VLADIMIR MALOFIENKO

The Clerk called the Senate bill (S. 199) for the relief of Alexandre Malofienko, Olga Matsko, and their son, Vladimir Malofienko.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be passed over without prejudice.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

TO DO THE WORK OF THE PEOPLE

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, as we prepare for the 107th Congress, I call upon my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to work with this Republican-led Congress to do the work of the people.

On November 7, the people of this country entrusted us with many responsibilities, including passing tax relief, implementing education reform, and ensuring quality and affordable health care for every American.

It is time that our hard-working families receive a break from the overwhelming tax burdens preventing many from saving for their child's education or even for their own retirement. It is time that our seniors be able to afford both food and medicine through a voluntary prescription drug benefit under Medicare. And it is time that our teachers and parents, not the Washington bureaucrats, are empowered to provide a quality education for America's children.

Working together, in a bipartisan fashion, we can accomplish these goals and many more.

It is my hope that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will put political partisanship aside and join with me to do the work of the people.

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION HAS REINVENTED COMMUNISM

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, America's trade deficit for September hit \$35 billion for one month, \$35 billion. America is heading for a \$420 billion, 1-year trade deficit.

Unbelievable. If this continues, America will have a crash that will make 1929 look like a fender-bender.

What is even worse, China is now taking \$100 billion of cash out of our economy, buying missiles, and pointing them at us.

Beam us up, all of us.

We must be stupid. Ronald Reagan almost destroyed Communism, and the Clinton administration has reinvented it, is now subsidizing it, and is now stabilizing it.

I yield back any common sense left and any patriotism left in this Congress.

AN ERA OF BIPARTISANSHIP

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.